

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-03 AID-05 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 ABF-01 AGR-05 COME-00

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LOC-01 NASA-01 NSF-01 OMB-01 SMI-01 TRSE-00 FS-01

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R 181325Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2914

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: USINJC, IN, US

SUBJECT: US SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY SUBCOMMISSION MTG - JAN. 1976

REF: A. STATE 295042. B. DELHI 16635. C. DELHI 16926

1. EMBASSY SCIENCE OFFICERS HAVE BEEN MEETING ALMOST DAILY WITH DR. DESHPANDE AND OTHERS AT THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (COST) DISCUSSING THE PREPARATION OF AN AGENDA FOR THE S&T SUBCOMMISSION MEETING AND INDIAN RESEARCH PROPOSALS TO BE REVIEWED AT THE MEETING. THE INDIANS NOW HAVE FIFTEEN PROPOSALS IN THE ORIGINAL 6 PRIORITY AREAS, PLUS ONE IN REMOTE SENSING AND ONE IN ASTRONOMY. THESE PRIORITY PROJECT PROPOSALS WILL BE REVIEWED ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, AT A MEETING CALLED BY DR. NAG CHAUDHURI OF THE INDIAN S&T SUBCOMMISSION. CLEARED PROPOSALS WILL THEN BE SENT TO DR. ANANDAKRISHNAN AT THE INDIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON NEXT WEEK FOR DEPARTMENT AND US AGENCY REVIEW. AT THIS POINT IT DOES NOT LOOK LIKE THE INDIAN PROPOSALS WILL REACH WASHINGTON BEFORE CHRISTMAS FOR US AGENCY REVIEW. OUR BEST GUESS NOW IS THAT THEY SHOULD ARRIVE SOME TIME THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 28.

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2. WE ARE CABLING THE AGENDA PROPOSED BY DOST FOR THE S&T MEETING AND THE LIST OF INDIAN RESEARCH PROPOSALS BY SEPARATE CADLE. DOST HAS CABLED THE AGENDA AND RESEARCH PROPOSAL LIST TO ANANDAKRISHNAN THROUGH INDIAN CHANNELS.

3. YESTERDAY, WE DISCUSSED THE TEXT OF REFTTEL A WITH DESHPANDE WHO WAS UNAWARE THAT ANANDAKRISHNAN HAD HANDED OVER RESEARCH AREA REFINEMENTS AND SAID THAT HE HAD NOT HAD INSTRUCTIONS TO DO SO. HE ASSUMED THESE REFINEMENTS WERE FROM THE ORIGINAL TWO VOLUMES OF 32 PROJECTS SENT TO WASHINGTON BEFORE THE JOINT COMMISSION MEETING IN OCTOBER. HOWEVER, HE FEELS THAT THE SIX PROJECT AREAS LISTED IN REFTTEL A WOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE PRIORITY PROJECT PROPOSALS NOW UNDER CONSIDERATION BY THE INDIAN JOINT SUBCOMMISSION IN DELHI.

4. DESHPANDE AND OTHERS AT DOST AGREE THAT THE S&T SUBCOMMISSION SHOULD FUNCTION AS AN OVERALL MONITORING BODY FOR SCIENCE COOPERATION AND WOULD DISCUSS AND ENDORSE RESEARCH PRIORITY AREAS, BUT SHOULD NOT HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR APPROVING DETAILED RESEARCH PROJECTS. THIS IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE INDIVIDUAL SCIENCE AGENCIES CONCERNED ON BOTH SIDES. THE INDIANS WILL, NEVERTHELESS, PRESENT DETAILED PRIORITY PROJECT PROPOSALS FOR CONSIDERATION, BUT THEY WILL NOT EXPECT THAT THE SUBCOMMISSION WILL SPECIFICALLY APPROVE THEM.

5. ITEM (2) OF THE PROPOSED INDIAN AGENDA STATES THAT "THE S&T SUBCOMMISSION WILL CONSIDER THE QUESTION OF THE RELATIONSHIP OF PL-480 SUPPORTED RESEARCH ACTIVITIES TO THE FUNCTIONS OF THE SUBCOMMISSION." WE BELIEVE THIS WILL GIVE THE US DELEGATION THE OPPORTUNITY TO AFFIRM THAT THE NEGOTIATING HISTORY OF THE JOINT AGREED MINUTES INDICATED THAT THE LANGUAGE OF THOSE MINUTES ABOUT GOI ENDORSEMENT APPLIES TO ALL RPT ALL JOINT RESEARCH. WE HOPE THAT THE EMBASSY WILL BY THAT TIME HAVE WORKED OUT SPECIFIC PROCEDURES FOR SATISFACTORY GOI REQUESTS FOR JOINT RUPEE SUPPORTED RESEARCH WHICH DO NOT COME DIRECTLY UNDER THE JURISDICTION ON THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SUBCOMMISSION. THE INDIANS ARE EXTREMELY ANXIOUS TO GET SOMETHING STARTED AT THE COMING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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S&T SUBCOMMISSION MEETING WHETHER IT IS ONE PROJECT OR FIFTEEN PROJECTS. THERE SEEMS TO BE A GREAT DEAL OF PRESSURE FROM A HIGH LEVEL FOR DOST TO GET THE BALL ROLLING WITH AT LEAST A FEW GOOD PROJECTS; OTHER ACTIVITIES CAN BE INCLUDED AT A LATER DATE.

6. WE HAVE ALSO BEEN DISCUSSING THE METHODOLOGY AND PROCEDURES FOR PROJECT FINANCING. DOST OFFICIALS. INCLUDING

NAG CHAUDHURI, FEEL THAT THE GOI WILL SUPPORT A PORTION OF THE RUPEE EXPENDITURES FOR EACH APPROVED PROJECT AND THAT THE US SIDE SHOULD SUPPORT A PORTION OF THE EXPENDITURES FROM US-OWNED RUPEES APPROPRIATED TO THE VARIOUS US SCIENCE AGENCIES CONCERNED. SOME OF THESE PROJECTS WILL CALL FOR DOLLAR EXPENDITURES WHICH THE INDIANS WOULD LIKE TO SEE COME FROM VARIOUS US SOURCES.

7. SEVERAL INDIAN RESEARCH LEADERS ARE RECEIVING A DIFFERENT STORY FROM THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE ON THE FUNDING OF THE PROJECTS SUBMITTED UNDER THE JOINT SUBCOMMISSION. THEY HAVE BEEN TOLD THEY WILL NOT RECEIVE ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR THESE PROJECTS AND THE MONEY WILL HAVE TO COME OUT OF THEIR REGULAR BUDGETS. CONSEQUENTLY, THEY ARE RELUCTANT TO SUBMIT ANY HIGH COST PROJECTS.

8. DURING A VERY BRIEF CONVESATION WITH THE DCM, DECEMBER 18, NAG CHAUDHURI CONFIRMED THAT IT WAS THE INDIAN PRIORITY PROJECT PROPOSALS WHICH THE GOI WISHED THE US SCIENTIFIC AGENCIES TO REVIEW IN PREPARATION FOR THE S&T MEETING. HE SAID THAT INSTRUCTION ON THIS HAD BEEN SENT TO ANANDAKRISHNAN ON DECEMBER 17. THE DCM NOTED THAT IN THIS CASE TIME WAS OF THE ESSENCE AS LITTLE ACTIVITY COULD BE EXPECTED IN WASHINGTON AROUND CHRISTMAS. NAG CHAUDHURI SAID THAT HE WOULD BEGIN TO PRODUCE SPECIFIC PROPOSALS BY THE END OF THIS WEEK AND WOULD SEND THEM PIECEMEAL TO THE INDIAN EMBASSY FOR TRANSMISSION TO THE USG. WE WILL, OF COURSE, GET COPIES AND POUCH THEM SIMILARLY.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MEETING AGENDA, SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, TECHNOLOGICAL EXCHANGES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 STATE 295042  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 06 AUG 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <06 AUG 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <13 AUG 2003 by MorefiRH>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** US SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY SUBCOMMISSION MTG - JAN. 1976  
**TAGS:** TGEN, IN, US, USINJC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006